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"EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE"
"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER EL421190155US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: 08 January 2001

Attorney Docket No. P32085

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barton, et al.

08 January 2001

International App. No.: PCT/GB99/02301

Group Art Unit No.: Unknown

International Filing Date: 15 July 1999

Examiner: Unknown

For: NOVEL COMPOSITION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Box: PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

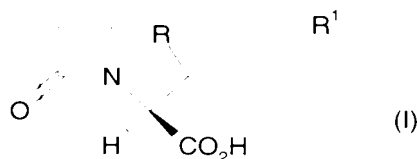
Preliminary to the examination of this application, applicants respectfully request amendment of the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

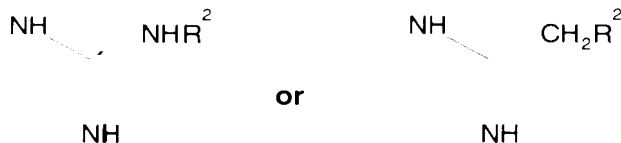
Please ~~cancel~~ claims 1-14.

Please add new claims 15- 28.

15. A process for preparing compounds of formula (I)



wherein R is H or OH and R¹ is



and where R² = H or C₁₋₆ alkyl